

CONGRATULATING CLIFFORD  
BOWEN

**HON. STEVE STIVERS**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 27, 2013*

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Clifford Bowen for celebrating his 100th birthday on February 8, 2013. Mr. Bowen is Madison County's oldest veteran, and his life and service to our country are nothing short of outstanding.

Born in Bell County, Kentucky, in 1913, Mr. Bowen grew up on a farm as one of six children. When he was 16, he followed in his father's footsteps and began working in a coal mine, where he was assigned to operate the tram motor.

When World War II broke out, Bowen left the coal mine and was assigned to the Army motor pool. The trucks he and his crew kept running supported the ordnance corps in Luzon and New Guinea in the Pacific Theater, and he was promoted to the rank of Technical Sergeant in 1946. After the war, Bowen met his wife Lucille in a dance hall, and the two were married for 27 years until she passed away in 1973. Mr. Bowen moved to Ohio in the 1980s, and he has remained there ever since.

I would again like to wish Clifford Bowen a very happy 100th birthday, and I ask that all Members of Congress stand with me and thank him for serving our country as Madison County's oldest veteran. The people of Ohio's 15th District are remarkable and hardworking, and Mr. Bowen is a perfect example of the sort of accomplished, admirable people who make my district truly exceptional.

HONORING EUGENE DAUB

**HON. JANICE HAHN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 27, 2013*

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Eugene Daub, a gifted local artist who designed and sculpted the new Congressional statue of civil rights icon Rosa Parks. I am thrilled that Rosa Parks will finally be honored with a statue in the Halls of Congress, and I am proud to recognize Mr. Daub, one of my constituents, as the creator of this great work.

We all know of Rosa Parks' extraordinary contributions to the civil rights movement. Her bravery and courage carried us forward on the road to equality. This statue is the first full-sized depiction of an African American in the Capitol, and an honor fitting for Rosa Parks. She fought for the values of life and liberty that this Nation has pledged to uphold and that these halls strive to embody.

Eugene Daub, the artist, is a resident of San Pedro, California, and the 44th Congressional District. He is the master sculptor of Daub and Firmin Sculptor Studios, LLC. In 2009, Daub and Firmin Studios was selected as the winner of a national competition managed by the National Endowment for the Arts to create the statue. Rob Firmin, partner and project manager, worked with Mr. Daub on the concept and design of the statue.

Mr. Daub has achieved an extraordinary career in public-art sculpture over the past 30

years. He received training at the Pennsylvania Academy for the Fine Arts and the University of Pittsburgh. Mr. Daub's sculptures are featured in public memorials and permanent collections throughout the world, including the Smithsonian Institution, The British Museum, Ellis Island Museum, the University of Virginia, and the Montana State Senate. He has been honored with prestigious awards for his artistry, including the Arthur Ross Award for sculpture from the Institute for Classical Architecture and Classical America and the American Numismatic Association Gold Medal for Lifetime Achievement in Bas Relief Sculpture.

I am thrilled to welcome such a talented artist and fellow San Pedran to the Capitol. Mr. Daub's depiction of Rosa Parks will attract visitors from all over the world who will note both its historical significance and profound beauty.

TEXAS INDEPENDENCE DAY,  
SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 2013

**HON. GENE GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 27, 2013*

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this Saturday, March 2, 2013, marks Texas Independence Day. 177 years ago on March 2, 1836, after more than a year of negotiations, citizen delegates met at Washington-on-the-Brazos and declared Texas independent.

The story of Texas independence dates back to 1830s, when a military dictatorship seized power in Mexico and abolished the Mexican Constitution. Once in power, the dictatorship refused to provide the most basic of rights, including a trial by jury, freedom of religion, public education for their citizens and the right to bear arms, this last one being the most intolerable, particularly among Texans.

Failure to provide these basic rights violated the sacred contract between a government and the people, and Texans did what we still do today—stand up for our rights.

At the Convention of 1836 on March 1, a committee of five delegates was appointed to draft the Texas Declaration of Independence. The committee, consisting of George C. Childress, Edward Conrad, James Gaines, Bailey Hardeman, and Collin McKinney, prepared the declaration in record time. It was briefly reviewed, then adopted by the delegates of the convention the following day, March 2.

The Texas Declaration of Independence states that Texas' government had been "forcibly changed, without their consent, from a restricted federative republic, composed of sovereign states, to a consolidated central military despotism."

The Texas Declaration of Independence was truly produced overnight. Its urgency was paramount, because while it was being prepared, the Alamo in San Antonio was under siege by Santa Anna's army of Mexico.

On March 6, four days after the signing, the Alamo fell with her commander Lt. Colonel William Barrett Travis, Colonel Jim Bowie, Former Tennessee Congressman David Crockett, and approximately 200 other Texan defenders.

However, on the afternoon of April 21, 1836, the Texan army avenged their losses at the

Alamo and attacked Santa Anna's camp near the San Jacinto River. The Mexican army was taken by surprise, and the roughly 900 members of the Texan army were able to overpower the much larger Mexican army. During the fighting, many of the Texan soldiers repeatedly cried, "Remember the Alamo!" The Battle of San Jacinto was over after just 18 minutes. Santa Anna was forced to order his troops out of Texas, thus ending Mexico's control.

Today we give thanks to the many Texans that sacrificed for the freedom we now enjoy. God bless Texas and God bless America.

SHIRLEY CHISHOLM CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL AWARD

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 27, 2013*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I introduced the Shirley Chisholm Congressional Medal Act (H. R. 1303) in the 112th Congress. This bill is being introduced to recognize the extraordinary contributions of Shirley Chisholm.

Shirley Chisholm was a pioneer. She was the first African-American woman elected to Congress in 1968 where she served until 1982. She represented Brooklyn's 12th Congressional District in the United States House of Representatives.

In 1972 Shirley Chisholm was the first African-American to seek the nomination of a major party for President of the United States.

Shirley Chisholm was a co-founder of the National Organization for Women (NOW).

This posthumous gold medal presentation will recognize Shirley Chisholm for her activism, independence and groundbreaking achievements in politics during and after the civil rights era. Both her election to Congress and her candidacy for the presidency raised the profile and aspirations of all African-Americans and women in the field of politics.

An historic figure in American political history and a champion for social justice, Shirley Chisholm died at the age of 80 on New Year's Day 2005. It is befitting that Congress bestow its highest civilian award, the Congressional Gold Medal, to former Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm posthumously.

HONORING BRYCE J. PARKER

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 27, 2013*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Bryce J. Parker. Bryce is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 175, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Bryce has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Bryce has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Bryce has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.